(c) what is the effect of such exports on environment; and

(d) how does the minimum export price compare with the prices prevailing elsewhere ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Minimum Export Price has been fixed for export of Stone Boulders from India keeping in view the prices prevailing international as well as environmental considerations.

Tax concessions for manufacturing and Trading Exports

3650. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has advised the Finance Ministry to treat both the manufacturing and trading exports at par for grant of tax concessions;

(b) if so, whether it has also suggested to the Finance Ministry to simplify the procedures for quick refund of excise duty to exporters;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that some industrial and export associations have requested Government for identical tax exemptions under Section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act to both categories of exporters;

(d) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Federation of Indian exporters have urged the Ministry of Commerce to ensure that provisions of Section 80-HHC are more transparent to enable every exporter to know his entitlements; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (e) : The suggestions received from trade and industry regarding provisions of Section 80 HHC of the Income Tax Act have been examined by the Government and not found feasible to accept. However, steps have been taken in the Budget for 1994-95 to simplify the structure and procedures relating to excise duties.

Import of Second Hand Cars

3651. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report published in the Times of India of 20-1-1994 that Government is planning to permit the import of second hand cars; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) : Import of Cars including second hand cars is allowed only to categories of persons/institutions as specified in Ministry of Commerce Public Notice No. 202(PN)/92-97 dated 30-3-1994 subject to fulfilment of certain conditions as laid down therein. A copy of this public Notice is available in the Parliament Library.